

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 123668  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:G DE SANTILLANA/KAR  
APPROVED BY ARA:T A TODMAN  
ARA/CAR:J C GRIFFITH  
ARA:S A SHELTON  
S/S-O:TOM MARTIN

-----108109 152339Z /65

O 152255Z MAY 78 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 123668

EXDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, DR

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN ELECTIONS: CONTINGENCY INSTRUCTIONS

REF: (A) STATE 097375; (B) DE SANTILLANA/AXELROD TELECON

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOTED RECENT INTELLIGENCE REPORTS INDICATING THAT SOME ELEMENTS OF THE DOMINICAN MILITARY MAY BE GIVING CONSIDERATION TO EXTRA-CONSTITUTIONAL ACTION TO THWART A POSSIBLE VICTORY BY THE OPPOSITION PRD PARTY IN TOMORROW'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

2. AS STATED IN PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS, THE USG HAS A STRONG INTEREST IN FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND IN AN ORDERLY CONSTITUTIONAL TRANSFER OF POWER, IF A CANDIDATE OTHER THAN PRESIDENT BALAGUER SHOULD WIN.

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3. IF YOU SHOULD RECEIVE EVIDENCE OR INFORMATION LEADING YOU TO CONCLUDE THAT THE DOMINICAN MILITARY INTENDS TO TAKE ACTION TO FRUSTRATE FREE ELECTIONS OR PRD VICTORY, YOU SHOULD WITHOUT WAITING FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS, SEEK IMMEDIATE MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER AND WITH RANKING OFFICERS OF THE DOMINICAN MILITARY. IN MEETINGS

YOU SHOULD:

-- STRESS AS FORCEFULLY AS POSSIBLE THE USG'S DEEP  
CONCERN AT INFORMATION OF INTENDED MILITARY ACTION;

-- NOTE PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S STATEMENT TO PRESIDENT  
CARTER IN WASHINGTON LAST SEPTEMBER THE ELECTION WOULD  
BE FREE AND OPEN;

-- EMPHASIZE OUR STRONG INTEREST IN FREE ELECTIONS IN  
THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND THAT THEIR RESULTS BE  
RESPECTED;

-- MAKE CLEAR THAT UNCONSTITUTIONAL ACTION TO  
FRUSTRATE FREE ELECTIONS OR PRD VICTORY WOULD PROVOKE  
A STRONGLY NEGATIVE REACTION BY THE USG AND HAVE  
SERIOUSLY ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR U.S.-DOMINICAN  
RELATIONS; AND

-- (FOR BALAGUER) URGE HIM TO IMMEDIATELY EXERT HIS GREAT  
INFLUENCE WITH THE DOMINICAN MILITARY AND IN HIS COUNTRY  
TO ENSURE THAT FREE ELECTIONS AND CONSTITUTIONAL PRO-  
CEDURES ARE RESPECTED.

4. THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION SHOULD MAKE THIS APPROACH  
TO ONE OR MORE DOMINICAN MILITARY LEADERS IN PLACE OF THE  
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AMBASSADOR IF URGENCY REQUIRES SIMULTANEOUS  
MEETINGS. VANCE

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:GDESANTILLANA  
APPROVED BY ARA/CAR:JGRIFFITH  
S/S-O:KSCOTT

-----118863 162335Z /61

O 162159Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 0879

S E C R E T STATE 123668

EXDIS FOR ARA DEP ASST SEC BUSHNELL

FOL RPT STATE 123668 SENT ACTION SANTO DOMINGO DTD 15 MAY 78

QUOTE: S E C R E T STATE 123668

EXDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, DR

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2. AS STATED IN PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS, THE USG HAS A STRONG INTEREST IN FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND IN AN ORDERLY CONSTITUTIONAL TRANSFER OF POWER, IF A CANDIDATE OTHER THAN PRESIDENT BALAGUER SHOULD WIN.

3. IF YOU SHOULD RECEIVE EVIDENCE OR INFORMATION LEADING YOU TO CONCLUDE THAT THE DOMINICAN MILITARY INTENDS TO TAKE ACTION TO FRUSTRATE FREE ELECTIONS OR PRD VICTORY, YOU SHOULD WITHOUT WAITING FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS, SEEK IMMEDIATE MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER AND WITH RANKING OFFICERS OF THE DOMINICAN MILITARY. IN MEETINGS YOU SHOULD:

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-- EMPHASIZE OUR STRONG INTEREST IN FREE ELECTIONS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND THAT THEIR RESULTS BE RESPECTED;

-- MAKE CLEAR THAT UNCONSTITUTIONAL ACTION TO FRUSTRATE FREE ELECTIONS OR PRD VICTORY WOULD PROVOKE A STRONGLY NEGATIVE REACTION BY THE USG AND HAVE SERIOUSLY ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR U.S.-DOMINICAN RELATIONS; AND

-- (FOR BALAGUER) URGE HIM TO IMMEDIATELY EXERT HIS GREAT INFLUENCE WITH THE DOMINICAN MILITARY AND IN HIS COUNTRY  
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TO ENSURE THAT FREE ELECTIONS AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES ARE RESPECTED.

4. THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION SHOULD MAKE THIS APPROACH TO ONE OR MORE DOMINICAN MILITARY LEADERS IN PLACE OF THE AMBASSADOR IF URGENCY REQUIRES SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS. VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
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